

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

Claim 1. A method for updating a mobile handset using an update package, the method comprising:

using a mime-type associated with the update package to determine if the update package received is appropriate for updating the mobile handset; and

invoking an appropriate update agent, based on the mime-type, for updating the mobile handset.

Claim 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the mobile handset comprises a plurality of update agents and the invoking an appropriate update agent comprises determining which of the plurality of update agents are capable of processing the update package and invoking one of the plurality of update agents that is determined to be capable of processing the update package.

Claim 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the mobile handset comprises firmware, software or configuration and wherein the invoking one of the plurality of update agents comprises invoking an appropriate one of the plurality of update agents to perform an update of the firmware, software or configuration of the mobile handset.

Claim 4. The method of claim 3 wherein a different mime-type is associated with update packages that are used to update firmware, update packages that are used to update software and update packages that are used to update configuration in the mobile handset.

Claim 5. The method of claim 4 further comprising:

registering the update agent and associated mime-types such that the mobile handset is able to determine the mime-types supported or processed by the update agent.

Claim 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the method further comprises using the mime-type associated with the update package to determine where the update package needs to be stored in non-volatile memory.

Claim 7. The method of claim 1 wherein the method further comprises using the mime-type associated with the update package to determine where the status is stored in the mobile handset following the invoking of an appropriate update agent.

Claim 8. An open update framework with producers and consumers of update packages, the open update framework comprising:

delivery means for the delivery of update packages;

consumption means for consuming update packages;

the open update framework that provides the consumers of update packages access to a large variety of update packages in an interoperable manner.

Claim 9. The open update framework of claim 8 further comprising:
the producers of update packages designating a mime-type with the update packages; and

the consumers of update packages employing the mime-type to determine how to consume the update packages.

Claim 10. The open update framework of claim 9 further comprising:
the producers of update packages wherein the producers of update packages are update package generators capable of generating update packages based on an old version of firmware or software and a new version of the firmware and software and associating a mime-type with the update packages.

Claim 11. The open update framework of claim 9 further comprising:
the consumers of update packages wherein the consumers of update packages are update agents in mobile handsets.

Claim 12. The open update framework of claim 9 further comprising:
the consumers of update packages wherein the consumers of update packages are
download agents or browsers in mobile handsets.

Claim 13. The open update framework of claim 9 further comprising:
the consumers of update packages wherein the consumers of update packages are
handoff agents in mobile handsets.

Claim 14. The open update framework of claim 9 further comprising a
generator that creates one or more update packages, determines the metadata, associates
an appropriate mime-type with each of the update packages generated, populates the
metadata with the mime-type, determines or computes security information such as
signatures, and incorporates them into an update package container.

Claim 15. The open update framework of claim 11 further comprising
a content server that serves as a repository of update packages for distribution to
the mobile handsets;
a mime-type associated with the update package container created by the
generator;
the content server processing the update package container based upon the mime-
type associated update package container.

Claim 16. A mobile handset with non-volatile memory that is capable of
processing an update package, the mobile handset comprising:

a download agent or a browser that uses a mime-type associated with the update
package to determine if the update package received is appropriate for an update activity
or is currently supported;

a handoff agent that determines where the update package with an associated
mime-type must be stored in non-volatile memory when it is downloaded;

an update agent that uses the mime-type related information to determine if the update package is appropriate for the firmware, software or configuration of the mobile handset.

Claim 17. The mobile handset of claim 16 wherein the update agent is selected from a plurality of available agents based on the mime-type of the update package.

Claim 18. The mobile handset of claim 16 wherein the handoff agent is selected from a plurality of available agents based on the mime-type of the update package.

Claim 19. The mobile handset of claim 16 wherein the download agent is selected from a plurality of available agents based on the mime-type of the update package.

Claim 20. The mobile handset of claim 16 wherein the mime-type of the update package has an associated magic number that is included in the update package.